

HALSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**Annual Report**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER**

OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC

**HEALTH INSPECTOR**

FOR

**1966**

## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

R. J. GILLER, Esq. (*Chairman*)

Dr. W. A. L. COLLIER

M. R. FITZ, Esq. (To 5.9.66)

F. G. H. HUMPHRIES, Esq.

C. R. JUNIPER, Esq.

G. F. LEE, Esq.

F. R. LAIDLER, Esq. (From 5.9.66)

M. C. PORTWAY, Esq.

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## **COUNCIL OFFICES**

RED HOUSE, COLCHESTER ROAD, HALSTEAD, ESSEX  
(To 22.10.66)

TRINITY STREET, HALSTEAD, ESSEX  
(Opened 22.10.66)

*Telephone:* Halstead 2503

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## **JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES**

### **HALSTEAD URBAN & RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS**

MOUNT HILL, HALSTEAD, ESSEX

*Telephone:* Halstead 2473

*Medical Officer of Health*

DR. JOHN HARKNESS

M.D., D.P.H., D.I.H., D.Obst.R.C.O.G.

*Also Medical Officer of Health, Halstead Rural District Council  
and*

*Medical Officer, Essex County Council*

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**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT**

*Public Health Inspector*

HAROLD NIELD

A.M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I., D.R.S.H.

*Incorporated Public Health Engineer*

*Also Public Health Inspector, Halstead Rural District Council*

*Deputy Public Health Inspector* BRIAN A. J. TURNER  
M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

*District Public Health Inspectors* BERNARD J. DAVIES  
D.R.S.H.

MICHAEL CRISP  
M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.  
(from 13.6.66)

*Technical Assistant* DAVID J. LAVER

*Chief Clerk* PETER E. ADAMS  
(Deceased 5.7.66)

BRIAN T. SCOGGINS  
(from 17.10.66)

*Clerical Assistant* Mrs. EILEEN G. CLARKE

*Clerk Typist* Miss SUSAN M. SNEEZUM  
(to 30.9.66)

Miss SUSAN HARROD  
(from 26.9.66 to 2.12.66)

Miss VALERIE J. TREBLE  
(from 28.12.66)

*Pupil Public Health Inspector* JOHN R. TANSWELL

*Part-time Rodent Operator* FRANK ANDREWS

*Also Part-time Rodent Operator*  
Halstead Rural District Council  
Braintree Urban District Council  
Braintree Rural District Council &  
Witham Urban District Council



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF  
THE HALSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, MISS JOYCE AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health of the District during 1966.

**Vital Statistics**

The estimated population is 6,710 and there were 109 live births and one still birth which gives a birth rate of 17.2 compared with 17.7 for England and Wales.

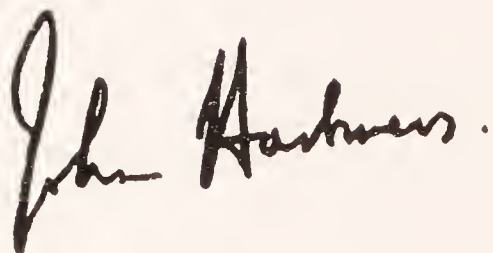
The death rate of 11.1 for 1,000 of the population compared with 11.7 for England and Wales.

**Infectious Diseases**

There were very few cases of infectious disease during the year.

**Environmental Hygiene**

This has been fully covered by the Report of the Public Health Inspector.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John Harkness". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a long, sweeping underline.

*Medical Officer of Health*

# TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HALSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, MISS JOYCE AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my ninth Annual Report on the environmental health duties and services provided by Public Health Inspectors during the year 1966.

The Report follows the customary pattern of statistical details required by various statutory provisions, and indicates the steady progress made in the improvement among other things of conditions in food control and food hygiene, housing, places of employment, pest control and the suppression of various nuisances, all of which environmental conditions assist in maintaining and promoting public health.

## **Food**

The supervision of food supplies and food hygiene generally formed an appreciable proportion of Public Health Inspectors' duties. Conditions were reasonably satisfactory, and no serious contraventions were observed or complaints received during the year.

The 100% meat inspection continued to be carried out, the Public Health Inspector's stamp on all meat carcasses gave visible assurance to the public of the meat's fitness. There were no poultry processing premises in the Council's area.

A table has been introduced into this report which gives details of hand and equipment washing facilities available at food premises. The importance of food hygiene, and especially the need for adequate hand washing facilities in food shops in order to reduce the high incidence of gastro-intestinal infection, food poisoning, etc., cannot be over emphasised.

## **Water**

Regular routine sampling of the Council's main supply confirmed it to be satisfactory both chemically and bacteriologically.

The public swimming bath water was also sampled regularly during the open season, and on the whole was reasonably satisfactory bacteriologically, although it did not always attain a high standard of clarity.

## **Air Pollution**

The Council continued to participate in the National Survey of Atmospheric Pollution, and daily volumetric measurements of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere were taken. The graphs on pages 14 and 15 indicate the amount of pollution, especially the increased pollution during the colder winter months, attributable mainly to domestic fires.

## Housing

Continued general improvement in existing housing conditions was secured by action under the Housing Acts by encouraging and enforcing the repair, re-conditioning and demolition of sub-standard dwellings, and also by approval of applications for Improvement Grants. The Council did not implement its compulsory powers for the improvement of dwellings with grant aid, or for making financial loans for housing repair or improvement.

The number of condemned, unfit houses which continued to be occupied was reduced from 27 to 16 during the year, but this was still high.

Trinity Square Clearance Area, reported in October 1960, was finally cleared during the year, but no progress was made on the Mount Pleasant Clearance Area reported in December 1960.

## Places of Employment

No serious defects were notified by H.M. Inspector of Factories or by private complainants. The three statistical tables dealing with Offices, Shops and Railway Premises introduced into this report give details of the additional duties carried out in connection with these premises during the year.

## Pests

The incidence of complaints and investigations regarding insect pests, rodent infestations and other pests was about average, and the district remained comparatively free from pest infestation.

## Miscellaneous

Duties in connection with various nuisances were about normal and the miscellaneous licensed premises were satisfactory.

It is a pleasure for me to record with thanks my appreciation of the support and confidence of the Public Health Committee and Council, and the help and co-operation of my own staff and other Council colleagues throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Miss Joyce and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H. J. Jones', with a horizontal line underneath.

*Health Inspector*



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) .. .. .	1,232
Population (Registrar General's estimate) .. .. .	6,710
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1966) according to the Rate Books .. .. .	2,592
Rateable Value .. .. .	£212,728
Sum represented by a penny rate .. .. .	£796

### Live Births:

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate .. .. .	102	53	49
Illegitimate.. .. .	7	3	4
Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population .. .. .			16.2
Birth rate (corrected by comparability factor of 1.06) .. .. .			17.2
Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales) .. .. .			17.7

### Still Births:

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate .. .. .	1	0	1
Illegitimate.. .. .	0	0	0
Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .. .. .			9.1
Total births (live and still) .. .. .			110

### Infant and Maternal Mortality:

Deaths of infants under 1 year .. .. .	2
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births .. .. .	18.3
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate births .. .. .	19.6
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate births .. .. .	143
Neo-natal mortality rate (first four weeks) per 1,000 live births .. .. .	18.3
Early neo-natal mortality rate (first week) per 1,000 live births .. .. .	18.3
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and first week) per 1,000 live and still births .. .. .	27.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births .. .. .	3.7
Maternal deaths (including abortion) .. .. .	0
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births .. .. .	—

### Deaths:

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Deaths .. .. .	86	45	41
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated population .. .. .			12.8
Death rate (corrected by comparability factor of 0.87) .. .. .			11.1
Death rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales) .. .. .			11.7

# DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1966

Disease	Male	Female
Tuberculosis (respiratory) .. .. .	0	0
Tuberculosis (other) .. .. .	0	0
Syphilitic disease .. .. .	0	0
Diphtheria .. .. .	0	0
Whooping cough .. .. .	0	0
Meningococcal infections .. .. .	0	0
Acute poliomyelitis .. .. .	0	0
Measles .. .. .	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases .. .. .	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach .. .. .	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .. .. .	4	0
Malignant neoplasm, breast .. .. .	0	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .. .. .	0	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. .. .	6	6
Leukæmia, aleukæmia .. .. .	0	0
Diabetes .. .. .	0	0
Vascular lesions of nervous system .. .. .	10	13
Coronary disease, angina .. .. .	7	8
Hypertension with heart disease .. .. .	0	0
Other heart disease .. .. .	2	0
Other circulatory disease .. .. .	2	4
Influenza .. .. .	0	0
Pneumonia .. .. .	2	2
Bronchitis .. .. .	5	0
Other diseases of respiratory system .. .. .	0	0
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. .. .	0	0
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa .. .. .	0	0
Nephritis and nephrosis .. .. .	0	0
Hyperplasia of prostate .. .. .	0	0
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. .. .	0	0
Congenital malformation .. .. .	0	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .. .. .	3	3
Motor vehicle accidents .. .. .	1	0
All other accidents .. .. .	2	0
Suicide .. .. .	1	1
Homicide and operations of war .. .. .	0	0
Totals ..	45	41



PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Disease	Total Cases notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria .. .. .	0	0	0
Dysentery .. .. .	0	0	0
Enteric Fever .. .. .	0	0	0
Erysipelas .. .. .	0	0	0
Food Poisoning .. .. .	0	0	0
Infectious Hepatitis .. .. .	0	0	0
Measles .. .. .	4	0	0
Meningococcal Infection .. .. .	0	0	0
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis .. .. .	0	0	0
Paralytic Poliomyelitis .. .. .	0	0	0
Pneumonia .. .. .	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) .. .. .	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Non-pulmonary) .. .. .	0	0	0
Whooping Cough .. .. .	1	0	0
Totals ..	5	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases notified: 0

Transfer from other Districts: 0

Deaths from Tuberculosis: 0

# 1. FOOD

## (a) Food, Food Hygiene and Food Premises Inspections

Details of food premises in the District, and of inspections made by Public Health Inspectors of the food therein, the hygiene of the processes, and the structure and cleanliness of the premises were:—

Type of Food Premises	No. in District	No. of Inspections	Having wash-hand basins with hot and cold water (Reg. 16)	Having sink with hot and cold water (Reg. 19)	Required to have sink with hot and cold water (Reg. 19)
Bakehouses .. .. .	2	4	1	2	2
Bread and Confectioners .. .. .	5	5	5	3	5
Bread Distribution Depots .. .. .	1	4	1	1	1
Dairies and Milk Distributors .. .. .	4	7	4	4	4
Egg Packing and Liquid Egg Preparation Premises .. .. .	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Shops and Fish Fryers .. .. .	4	16	3	3	4
Game Dealers' Premises (Licensed) .. .. .	2	1	2	2	2
General Provisions Shops .. .. .	19	38	9	8	19
Greengrocers .. .. .	4	4	2	3	4
Ice Cream Premises (Registered) .. .. .	23	28	7	0	0
Meat Products Premises (Registered) .. .. .	4	4	4	4	4
Meat Shops .. .. .	5	7	5	5	5
Poultry Processing Premises .. .. .	0	0	0	0	0
Public Houses and Inns .. .. .	30	34	7	29	28
Restaurants and Cafes .. .. .	5	10	2	5	5
School Kitchens .. .. .	5	5	4	5	5
Slaughterhouses .. .. .	1	161	1	1	1
Street Vendors .. .. .	1	16	1	1	1
Sweet Confectioners .. .. .	5	5	2	4	5
Works Canteens .. .. .	4	4	3	4	4
Miscellaneous .. .. .	5	13	5	5	3
Totals .. .. .	129	366	68	89	102

Food poisoning investigations .. .. .	0
Informal notices served .. .. .	12
Food premises improved .. .. .	13
Food vehicles improved .. .. .	1

No Clean Food Guilds were inaugurated or existed during the year.

Food traders were co-operative in securing the hygienic handling and storage of food. Progress in this matter is very dependent upon public opinion.

(b) Food Premises Improvements

Type of Food Premises	Structural Works	Decorations and Cleaning	Lighting and Ventilation	Cold Water Supply	Hot Water Supply	Washing Facilities	Food Storage Facilities	Refuse Storage Facilities	Drainage	Sanitary Accommodation	Name and Address Displayed	Wash Hand Notices Displayed	TOTALS
Bread and Confectioners	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4
General Provision Shops	0	0	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
Meat Shops ..	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	5
Public Houses and Inns ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Restaurants and Cafes ..	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3
Slaughter-houses ..	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Food Vehicles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Totals ..	0	1	6	1	2	4	0	2	0	5	1	1	23

(c) Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouses

One slaughterhouse was licensed by the Council, used by a local butcher during the year, and slaughtering was carried out on three days per week. This regular slaughtering of animals at fixed times on fixed days was approved by the Council.

All animals slaughtered in the District were inspected in accordance with statutory requirements for fitness of the meat and offal for human consumption and, if passed, marked before leaving the slaughterhouse.

One specimen was submitted to Animal Health Division of Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for examination.

Charges for meat inspection of 2/6 per bovine animal or horse, 9d. per calf or pig, and 6d. per sheep, lamb or goat remained in force.

Details of meat inspection carried out by Public Health Inspectors at the slaughterhouse are given in the following table:—



	Cattle exclu- ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. Killed .. .. .	344	0	5	1,351	485	0
No. Inspected .. .. .	344	0	5	1,351	485	0
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>						
(a) Whole carcasses condemned ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	23	0	0	11	6	0
(c) Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci .. .. .	6.68	0	0	0.81	1.23	0
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>						
(a) Whole carcasses condemned ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
(c) Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis .. .. .	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Cysticercosis</i>						
(a) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
(c) Generalised and totally con- demned .. .. .	0	0	0	0	0	0

Licensed Slaughtermen: 7

#### (d) Poultry Inspection

There were no Poultry Processing premises within the District.

#### (e) Unsound Food

It was not necessary to make any seizures of food. Vendors co-operated satisfactorily in reporting suspected food. The following commodities were voluntarily surrendered:—

Beef .. .. .	184 lbs.
Mutton .. .. .	23 lbs.
Pork .. .. .	26 lbs.
Tinned Foods .. .. .	60 lbs.
Total ..	293 lbs.

This condemned food was stained and disposed of by burial in deep refuse pits.

No special examinations of whole stocks or consignments of food were necessary during the year.

#### (f) Milk and Dairies

The Council remained responsible for the registration of dairies other than dairy farms and of distributors, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for the supervision of dairy farms. Dealers' licences were granted by the Essex County Council as Food and Drugs Authority, and permitted sales outside as well as inside the area of the licensing authority.

Bacteriological milk sampling, and also sampling for biological examination for tubercle bacilli and brucella abortus was carried out by the Essex County Council.

The four registered dairy premises were all visited by your Public Health Inspectors during the year.

#### (g) Ice Cream

There were no premises in the District registered for the manufacture of ice cream, but 23 premises were registered for the sale only of pre-packed ice cream.

Details of samples of ice cream and ice lollies taken for bacteriological examination are given in the following tables:—

Ministry of Health Provisional Grade	No. of Ice Cream Samples	Bacteriological Classification	No. of Ice Cream Samples
I	6	Excellent	3
II	1	V. Satisfactory	0
III	1	Satisfactory	5
IV	1	Fair	0
		Unsatisfactory	1
	Total 9		Total 9

Bacteriological Classification	No. of Ice Lolly Samples
Excellent .. .. .	0
V. Satisfactory .. .. .	1
Satisfactory .. .. .	0
Fair .. .. .	0
Unsatisfactory .. .. .	0
	Total 1

#### (h) General

Four complaints were received during the year regarding unfit food, food handlers' unhygienic practices or uncleanly food premises, as follows:—

Food	Complaint
Milk	Foreign objects.
Butter	Pieces of plastic.
Sugar	Rancid
	Infested with saw toothed grain beetle.
Beer	Tainted with creosote

In each case detailed investigations were carried out and appropriate informal action taken. There is, however, a well known marked reticence on the part of the public generally in making official complaints regarding these matters.

No prosecutions regarding food or food premises were instituted during the year.

The County Council as Food and Drugs Authority were responsible for the taking of samples for chemical analysis of food and drugs, milk, ice cream, etc., but details of such sampling were not notified to the Urban District Council.

## 2. WATER

The water supply of the area was generally satisfactory both in respect of quality and quantity. Water from the Council's Undertaking was chlorinated but not treated by softening and as a routine procedure samples were submitted for bacteriological laboratory examination and included some of the raw water direct from the borewell. Samples for chemical analysis were also taken. The supply had no plumbo-solvent action.

The water consumption in the District from public piped mains supplies was estimated to be 42.7 gallons per head per day. This is based upon the Council's Water Engineer's calculations of:—

(a) Estimated population served	.. ..	6,710
(b) Water supplied during year from:—		
(a) Council's borewell	.. ..	103,748,000 gallons
(b) Halstead Rural District Council mains	.. ..	2,143,000 gallons
(c) Bulk supply from Council's mains to Halstead Rural District Council of	..	1,158,000 gallons

1,309 yards of 6-inch distribution main in Colchester Road was renewed and put into use in June. Work commenced on a new high level water tower at Parkfields during the year, and also on a new main to serve the northern area of the town under a joint scheme with the Halstead Rural District Council. Ministry approval was obtained for a new borewell at Parsonage Street. Restrictions on the number of houses to be built continued during the year on account of shortage of water in North-East Essex generally.

During the year the following work was carried out by Public Health Inspectors:—

(a) Inspections regarding water supplies	.. ..	18
(b) Statutory Notices served re water supplies	.. ..	0
(c) Informal Notices served re water supplies	.. ..	25
(d) Samples of water submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination. Details of these are given in the following table	.. ..	12

Source	No. of Samples	Wholesome	Below Standard
Public Water Mains .. ..	12	12	0
Private Water Mains .. ..	0	0	0
Public Wells, etc. .. ..	0	0	0
Private Wells, etc. .. ..	0	0	0
Totals ..	12	12	0

(e) Samples of water examined for Chlorine content: 24



A typical Chemical Analysis of the Public Mains Water Supply is given in the following table:—

Examination For	Parts per million	Examination For	Parts per million
Turbidity .. .. .	Less than 3	Hardness: Carbonate (Temporary)	265
Colour .. .. .	Nil	Non-Carbonate (Permanent)	30
Odour .. .. .	Nil	Nitrate Nitrogen ..	0.0
pH .. .. .	7.4		Less
Free Carbon Dioxide ..	20	Nitrite Nitrogen .. ..	than 0.01
Electric Conductivity ..	700	Ammoniacal Nitrogen ..	0.16
Dissolved Solids Dried at 180°C. .. .. .	470	Albuminoid Nitrogen ..	0.00
Chlorine present as Chloride .. .. .	78	Oxygen Absorbed ..	0.15
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate .. .. .	265	Residual Chlorine ..	0-0.22
Hardness: Total .. .. .	295	Metals: Iron .. .. .	0.40
		Zinc .. .. .	Absent
		Copper, Lead, Manganese, etc.	Absent
		Fluorine .. .. .	0.7

### Public Swimming Baths

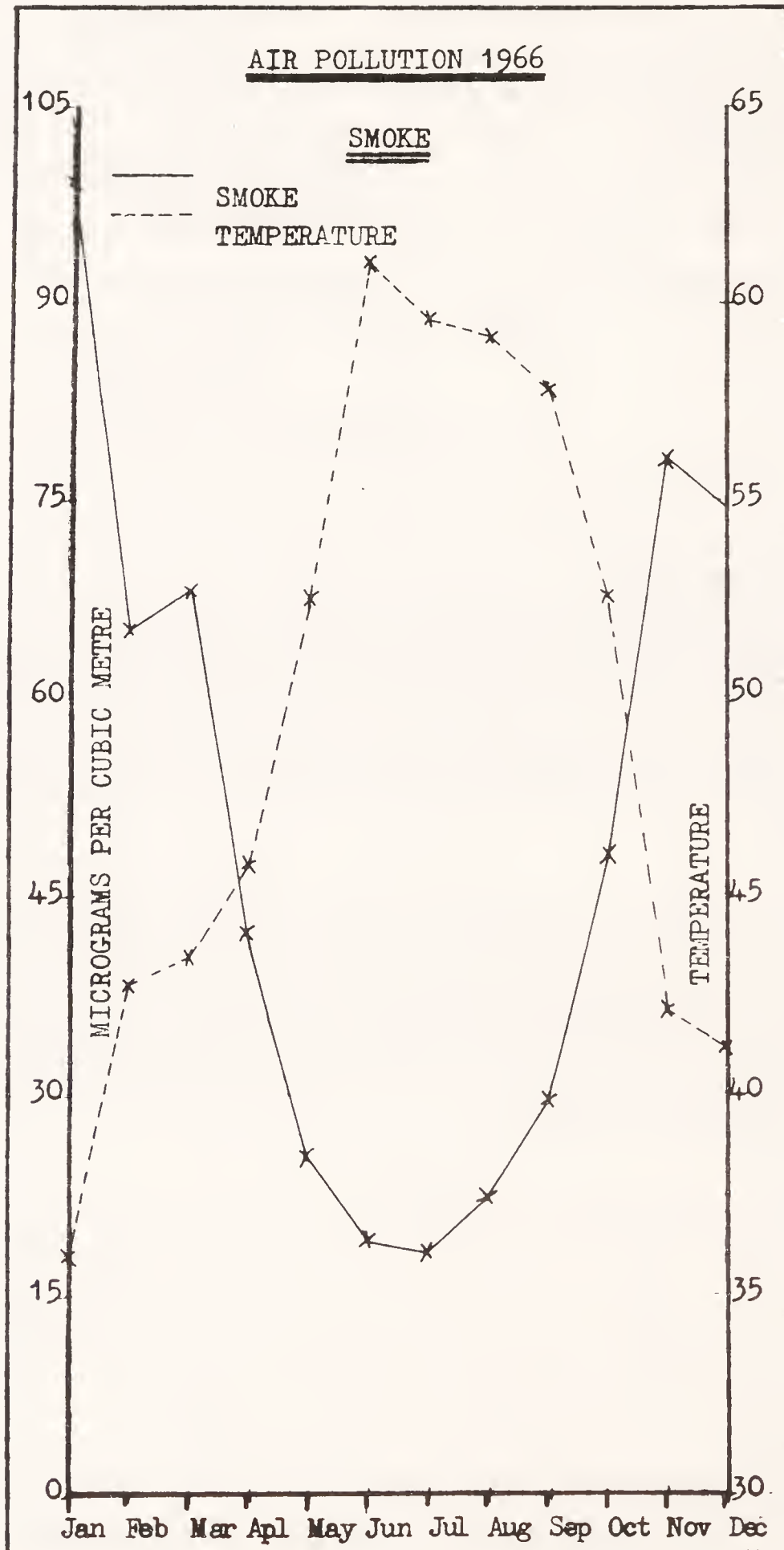
The Council’s public swimming baths were again used during May to October, each week from Thursday to Tuesday, being emptied Tuesday evenings and filled Wednesdays with water from the Council’s Undertaking. Hand chlorination was carried out and the use of an algaeicide was continued with success, to secure improved clarity and purification, and to facilitate cleansing. As a routine procedure samples of the baths water during use were examined for estimation of residual chlorine content, and submitted for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination.

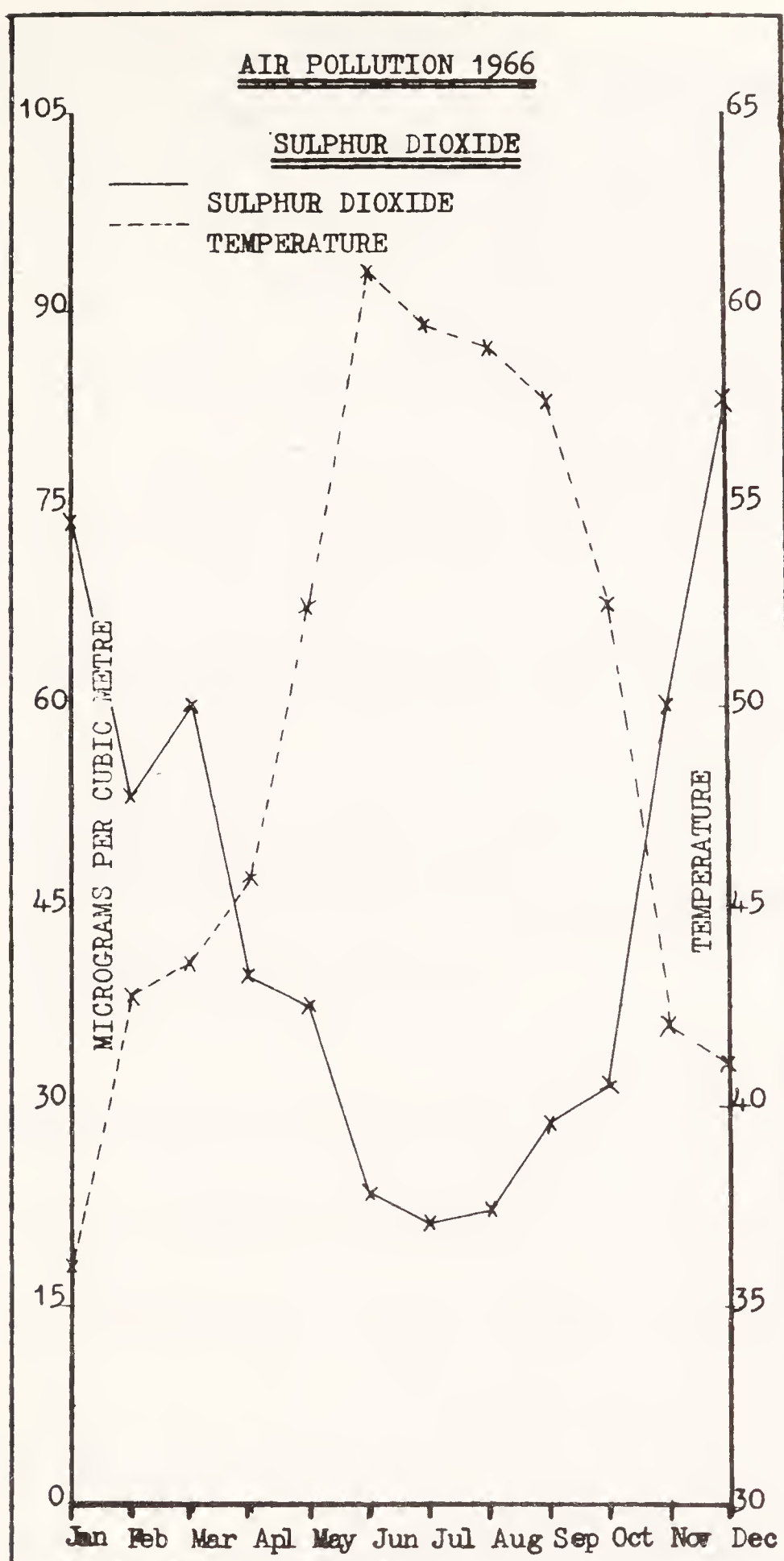
During the open season 39 visits were made. 27 routine samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and found to be suitable for bathing purposes with the exception of seven samples taken in May, June, July and October, of which four were unsatisfactory and 3 failed to attain the prescribed high standard, due to under chlorination. 27 samples were also taken for chemical analysis and four failed to attain a high standard of clarity due partly to iron content. 24 samples were taken for estimation of residual chlorine content and all were satisfactory.

### 3. AIR POLLUTION

The Council continued to co-operate in the National Survey of Atmospheric Pollution, and daily volumetric measurements of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere were taken and the results forwarded monthly to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

The following graphs show the variation in pollution throughout the year, and it is interesting to compare this with the mean temperatures.





(a) New Furnaces and Chimney Installations

(1)	Notices submitted with plans and specifications of proposals to install furnaces and chimneys to which the Clean Air Act applies..	1
(2)	Approvals granted of such plans and specifications for the purposes of the Clean Air Act .. .. .	0

(b) Air Pollution Nuisances

(1)	Investigations .. .. .	7
(2)	Confirmed .. .. .	0
(3)	Abated .. .. .	0



## 4. HOUSING

### (a) Housing Inspections

(1)	Inspections regarding disrepair and sanitary defects	..	..	139
(2)	Houses fully surveyed and recorded	..	..	19
(3)	Inspections regarding reconditioning	..	..	37
(4)	Inspections regarding overcrowding	..	..	2
(5)	Inspections regarding Certificates of Disrepair	..	..	0
(6)	Inspections of moveable dwellings	..	..	2
(7)	Miscellaneous Housing inspections	..	..	136
(8)	Investigations of applications for Council house tenancies	..		0

### (b) Housing Notices

(1)	Informal Notices served regarding disrepair and defects	..	..	5
(2)	Statutory Notices served under Housing Act regarding disrepair and defects	..	..	0
(3)	Statutory Notices served under Public Health Act regarding disrepair and defects	..	..	0

Property owners responded satisfactorily to informal procedure requesting the repair and improvement of dwelling houses.

### (c) Unfit Houses

(1)	Houses Officially Reported Unfit to Council under Housing Act		8
(2)	(a) Undertakings accepted (i) to make fit for human habitation	..	0
	(ii) not to use for human habitation	..	0
	(b) Undertakings cancelled	..	0
	(c) Accumulated total of outstanding Undertakings (Dec. 1966)		
	(i) to make fit for human habitation	..	0
	(ii) not to use for human habitation	..	5
(3)	(a) Closing Orders made	..	1
	(b) Closing Orders determined	..	0
	(c) Accumulated total of outstanding Closing Orders (Dec. 1966)		13
(4)	(a) Demolition Orders made	..	9
	(b) Demolition Orders revoked	..	0
	(c) Accumulated total of outstanding Demolition Orders (Dec. 1966)	..	19
(5)	(a) Houses made subject to Compulsory Purchase Orders	..	0
	(b) Accumulated total of houses subject to outstanding Compulsory Purchase Orders (Dec. 1966)	..	8

### (d) Slum Clearance Proposals

Details of the Council's ten years Slum Clearance Proposals are given in the following tables which show:

- (1) the approved proposals;
- (2) the year-by-year progress made, and
- (3) the position at 31st December, 1966.

(1)

Years	Total houses in District Unfit for Human Habitation
1956-65	132
1966-75	103
	(Including 58 remaining from 1956-65 proposals)

(2)

Year	Houses Reported Unfit	Undertakings Accepted	Closing Orders Made	Demolition Orders Made	Houses Made Subject to Clearance Orders	Houses Made Subject to Compulsory Purchase Orders	Houses Made Fit	Houses Demolished
1956	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
1957	36	13	16	10	0	0	0	3
1958	4	2	0	1	0	0	1	11
1959	23	0	0	4	18	0	6	16
1960	46	0	5	2	0	0	2	7
1961	22	0	2	16	0	0	1	16
1962	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	7
1963	5	0	4	5	0	24	0	4
1964	2	0	1	9	0	0	0	15
1965	7	0	0	0	0	8	2	9
1966	8	0	1	9	0	0	0	22
Totals	165	16	31	57	18	32	12	110

(3)

Unfit Houses Reported to Council and made subject to							Unfit Houses awaiting Report to Council
Undertakings	Closing Orders	Demolition Orders	Clearance Orders	Compulsory Purchase Orders	Action Pending		
					Deferred by Council	Other	
5	13	19	0	8	0	5	34
1	6	7	0	2	Total Houses Occupied		16

(e) Housing Improvements

(1) Houses reconditioned or repaired following informal action by Public Health Inspectors .. .. .	25
(2) Houses fully reconditioned to the "Twelve Points Standard" .. .. .	16
(3) Houses repaired following Statutory Housing Act Notices .. .. .	1
(4) Houses repaired following Statutory Public Health Act Notices .. .. .	0
(5) Houses reconditioned following Statutory Housing Act Orders .. .. .	0
(6) Houses demolished following Statutory Demolition Orders under Housing Act .. .. .	2
(7) Houses in Clearance Areas demolished .. .. .	20

(f) Housing Improvement Grants

(1) Applications for Discretionary Improvement Grants .. .. .	1
(2) Discretionary Improvement Grants approved .. .. .	1
(3) Schemes completed .. .. .	5

Details regarding Discretionary Improvement Grants are given in the following table:—

Year	Applications			Completions	
	Received	Approved	Grant Approved	No.	Grant Paid
1949 to 1954	0	0	—	0	—
1955	14	7	£1,231 12 10	6	£1,036 12 4
1956	0	0	—	1	£195 0 6
1957	0	0	—	0	—
1958	0	0	—	0	—
1959	5	5	£689 0 0	2	£240 0 0
1960	9	9	£1,649 0 0	5	£759 0 0
1961	4	4	£832 0 0	6	£1,171 0 0
1962	3	3	£620 0 0	4	£649 0 0
1963	4	4	£852 0 0	5	£1,072 0 0
1964	2	2	£360 0 0	1	£175 0 0
1965	4	4	£825 0 0	2	£403 0 0
1966	1	1	£214 0 0	5	£1,039 0 0
Totals	46	39	£7,372 12 10	37	£6,739 12 10

(4) Applications for Standard Grants .. .. .	7
(5) Standard Grants approved .. .. .	7
(6) Schemes completed .. .. .	11

Details regarding Standard Grants are given in the following table:—

Year	Applications			Completions		
	Received	Approved	Maximum Grant Approved	No.	Amount of Standard Grant	
					Maximum Approved	Actual Paid
1959	5	5	£570	0	—	—
1960	11	11	£1,370	9	£1,050	£693 16 6
1961	10	10	£1,065	15	£1,765	£1,254 1 3
1962	10	10	£1,520	4	£610	£478 3 5
1963	6	6	£910	5	£675	£604 16 7
1964	8	8	£1,190	6	£880	£698 9 2
1965	12	12	£1,660	6	£910	£727 13 4
1966	7	7	£980	11	£1,560	£1,350 6 3
Totals	69	69	£9,265	56	£7,450	£5,807 6 6



(7) Houses subject to Grants were occupied as follows:—

Year	Improvement Grants			Standard Grants		
	Owner	Tenant	Total	Owner	Tenant	Total
1949 to 1954	0	0	0			
1955	3	4	7			
1956	0	0	0			
1957	0	0	0			
1958	0	0	0			
1959	3	2	5	4	1	5
1960	1	8	9	9	2	11
1961	4	0	4	9	1	10
1962	2	1	3	8	2	10
1963	1	3	4	4	2	6
1964	1	1	2	7	1	8
1965	0	4	4	6	6	12
1966	0	1	1	4	3	7
Totals	15	24	39	51	18	69

(8) Loans made by Council for Repairing or Improving Houses .. 0

**(g) Rent Act**

(1) Applications for Certificates of Disrepair .. .. .	0
(2) Decisions to issue Certificates .. .. .	0
(3) Undertakings given by Landlords .. .. .	0
(4) Certificates of Disrepair issued .. .. .	0
(5) Applications for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair ..	0
(6) Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair ..	0
(7) Certificates of Disrepair cancelled .. .. .	0

**(h) Housing Overcrowding**

(1) Overcrowded houses existing December, 1965 .. .. .	0
(2) Overcrowded houses found during 1966 .. .. .	0
(3) Overcrowded houses relieved during 1966 .. .. .	0
(4) Overcrowded houses existing December, 1966 .. .. .	0

**(i) Caravan Sites**

There was one caravan site licence in force in the District.

**(j) Miscellaneous**

During the year 54 houses were built by private enterprise, 28 houses, 52 flats and 3 two-bedroom bungalows were built by the Council. No existing Council houses were improved to present day standards of amenity by the provision of bathrooms, hot water supplies, etc.

No houses were sold by the Council to tenants.

Houses owned by the Council at the end of the year were:—

Pre-war. Houses .. .. .	342
Post-war. Houses and Bungalows .. .. .	430
(including 20 temporary prefabricated bungalows)	
Flats and flatlets .. .. .	174
(1 block of 24, 2 blocks of 16, 1 block of 14, 2 blocks of 12, 7 blocks of 8, 4 blocks of 6)	

## 5. PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT

### (a) Factories

#### (1) Inspections and Notices

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	18	12	0	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	41	23	1	0
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ..	0	0	0	0
Totals .. ..	59	35	1	0

#### (2) Defects found and Remedied

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .. ..	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) .. ..	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .. ..	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ..	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	1	0	0	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes .. ..	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .. ..	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ..	2	0	0	0	0

### (3) Outworkers

Nature of Outwork	Section 133			Section 134			Inspections
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions	
Wearing apparel—Making, etc.	2	0	0	0	0	0	2

### (b) Offices, Shops and Railway Premises

During the year all known premises subject to the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, had been registered and were inspected, 91 premises being fully surveyed and recorded. 88 informal notices were served in respect of contraventions found. On the whole occupiers of premises were co-operative in carrying out improvements.

No accidents were reported, and no applications were received for exemption from the provisions relating to room space for employees, temperature, sanitary conveniences and running water supply to washing facilities.

The following tables give details of:—

1. Premises registered and inspections.
2. Contraventions.
3. Improvements following informal action by Public Health Inspectors.



TABLE 1   PREMISES REGISTERED AND INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Premises registered during year	Registered premises at end of year	Registered premises general inspection	Total visits of all kinds	Persons employed	
					Male	Female
Offices .. .. .	4	28	24	78	75	96
Retail Shops .. .. .	6	66	61	154	116	174
Wholesale shops, warehouses .. .. .	0	2	2	9	15	4
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens .. .. .	0	3	3	11	4	8
Fuel storage depots .. .. .	0	1	1	1	5	0
Totals ..	10	100	91	253	215	282

TABLE 2 CONTRAVENTIONS

Premises	Information	Cleanliness and Decorations	Overcrowding	Temperature	Ventilation	Lighting	Sanitary Conveniences	Washing Facilities	Drinking Water	Clothing	Sitting Facilities	Eating Facilities	Floors and Stairs	Dangerous Machinery	Young Persons	Supervision	Health and Safety	Noise	Heavy Work	First-Aid	Miscellaneous	TOTALS
Offices .. .. .	11	1	0	7	10	1	21	13	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	70
Retail Shops .. .. .	36	27	0	31	56	11	14	9	3	1	3	0	18	1	0	0	0	0	0	18	1	219
Warehouses and Wholesale Shops .. .. .	1	0	0	2	4	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	12
Catering Establishments .. .. .	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Fuel Storage Depots .. .. .	1	3	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	11
Totals .. .. .	51	31	0	41	71	13	37	25	3	3	4	0	19	1	0	0	0	0	0	25	1	315

TABLE 3 IMPROVEMENTS

Offices .. .. .	6	0	0	3	6	1	8	5	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	35
Retail Shops .. .. .	10	1	0	8	13	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	50
Warehouses and Wholesale Shops .. .. .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Catering Establishments .. .. .	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fuel Storage Depots .. .. .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals .. .. .	17	1	0	11	19	1	13	7	0	0	0	0	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	86

(c) Miscellaneous

Certificates of Exemption granted (shops) .. .. .	0
Certificates of Exemption (shops) in operation .. .. .	0

## 6. WASTE MATTERS

### (a) Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Public Sewerage and Sewage Disposal was part of the duties of your Surveyor. The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the District were reasonably adequate, but it continued to become increasingly more apparent that enlargement would be required to deal with increasing sewage flows from the existing steady development and anticipated future growth of the town.

No new works of sewerage or sewage disposal or important additions to existing works were carried out.

The Council resolved to proceed with the extension of the Langley Mill Sewage Disposal Works as a matter of urgency.

No inspections were made by your Public Health Inspectors of public sewers following complaints.

### (b) Drainage

1. Drainage investigations and advisory visits	..	..	..	10
2. Drainage inspections..	..	..	..	11
3. Inspections of ditches, water courses, etc.	..	..	..	1
4. Drainage tests	..	..	..	0
5. Informal notices served	..	..	..	1
6. Statutory notices served	..	..	..	0

As a result of informal action by Public Health Inspectors, two drains were reconstructed and five drains cleansed.

### (c) Refuse Storage and Disposal

Public cleansing was part of the duties of your Surveyor. The Council possessed one refuse collecting vehicle which removed house refuse at weekly intervals. Refuse was disposed of on a refuse dump at Sible Hedingham in the Halstead Rural District. During the year the Council purchased a Bristol Europa tractor for covering, grading and levelling the dump surface.

Four inspections of the refuse dump and nine inspections regarding refuse accumulations and storage were made. Six informal notices were served regarding refuse accumulation and four regarding provision of dustbins.

As a result of informal action by Public Health Inspectors one refuse accumulation was removed and three dustbins provided.



## 7. PESTS

### (a) Insect Pests

The District continued to be comparatively free from insect pest infestation. One premise was found with bed bug infestation. Five inspections were made by Public Health Inspectors in connection with insect pests and six premises were disinfested in respect of ants, fleas and wasps.

### (b) Rodent Control

The Council operated a rat and mouse disinfestation service for occupiers of business premises on a basis of repayment of the cost of time, transport and materials. During the year the Council resolved to provide a rat and mouse disinfestation service for occupiers of domestic premises free at the discretion of the Public Health Inspector. Poison bait was also issued free to private householders.

There was no unduly high incidence of rat and mouse infestations in the District. The Council's public sewers and refuse dumps were rat disinfested as a routine measure in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food requirements.

Details of Rodent Control work carried out by Public Health Inspectors and part-time Rodent Operator during the year were:—

No.	Properties other than Sewers	Type of Property	
		Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1.	Number of properties in district .. ..	3,312	13
2a.	Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification .. .. .	77	1
2b.	Number infested by (i) Rats .. ..	70	1
	(ii) Mice .. ..	7	0
3a.	Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification .. .. .	369	3
3b.	Number infested by (i) Rats .. ..	1	0
	(ii) Mice .. ..	2	0

#### Sewers

4.	No sewers were found to be infested by rats during the year.
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Three informal notices were served in respect of three non-agricultural premises, and one non-agricultural premise was rat disinfested following informal action.

Four "Block Control" schemes were carried out, one in respect of 17 houses, one in respect of eight houses and two in respect of three houses each.

### (c) Miscellaneous Pests

Two premises were disinfested in respect of moles.

## 8. MISCELLANEOUS

The following miscellaneous duties were also carried out by Public Health Inspectors during the year:—

### (a) Noise Nuisances

(1)	Investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
(2)	Confirmed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(3)	Abated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

### (b) Effluvia Nuisances

(1)	Investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
(2)	Confirmed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(3)	Abated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

### (c) Keeping of Animals and Poultry Nuisances

(1)	Investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
(2)	Confirmed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(3)	Abated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

### (d) Notifiable Diseases

(1)	Investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(2)	Premises Disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

### (e) Animal Boarding Establishments

(1)	Licences granted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(2)	Premises Fully Surveyed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(3)	Other Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

### (f) Pet Shops

(1)	Licences granted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
(2)	Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

### (g) Rag Flock Stores

(1)	Licences granted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(2)	Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

### (h) Waste Food Boiling Premises

(1)	Licences granted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
(2)	Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0

### (i) Local Land Charges

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### (j) Plans

Planning and Building Regulation plans examined regarding public health matters	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
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It is important that plans should be examined by Public Health Inspectors to avoid works being carried out in accordance with Planning Permissions and Building Regulation Approvals which contravene statutory requirements administered through Public Health Inspectors, especially at food premises, places of employment, shops, factories, etc.

### (k) Miscellaneous Housing Matters

There were no registered Common Lodging Houses nor unsatisfactory Houses in Multiple Occupation in the District.

### (l) Special Reports

One special report was submitted to the Council by the Public Health Inspector during the year—"Standards of Housing Fitness".

### (m) Training of Public Health Workers

Several students (Public Health workers, Teachers, etc.) were conducted on inspection visits of places of public health interest throughout the District.

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